

Subject: A disputed coal bill

Thomas Ward Coal Company  
[79th St. + North River]

1926

February 27th, 1926

Thomas Ward Coal Company  
79th St. & North River  
New York City

Gentlemen:

Shortly after the last lot of coke (consisting of three tons) arrived, our janitor telephoned you that it came badly frozen with a great deal of ice in it. For the next three or four days, our cellar was flooded with water, which entailed much time being expended and wasted in clearing the cellar while the thawing of the ice was taking place. I had no means of judging the quantity of water there - several inches, at least. So far we have received no bill for this three tons, but we feel that we can buy water cheaper than at the rate asked for this coke.

We dug out from the centre of the pile, (which had remained unfrozen, more or less), lumps weighing  $73\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., and when this amount dried, it weighed  $61\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., establishing a ratio of 120 lbs. to 100 lbs. To verify this we made two tests -

We took 100 lbs. of dry coke and saturated it with water, and let it remain a day or so, and the weight then became  $124\frac{4}{10}$  lbs.; and we took another lot of 100 lbs. and froze it to as near as possible the condition in which the coke which you sent us, arrived. This weighed 122 lbs.

By these figures, you will see that the water in the coke by weight was about 22%. In consequence, some readjustment in the bill is in order.

Very truly yours,

Curator

3-6

3-15-

3-7 1/2

1-7

35 1/2

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12-3 1/2

12.

61.25; 73.5; 100.

$$\begin{array}{r} 73 \frac{5}{8} \\ \underline{61 \frac{5}{8}} \\ 12 \frac{1}{4} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 61.25 \overline{) 73.50} \phantom{00} \\ \underline{61.25} \phantom{00} \\ 12.250 \\ \underline{12.250} \\ 0 \end{array}$$



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
The American Numismatic Society  
156th Street and Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Enclosed find check to your order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

in payment for        silver  
                             bronze medal        , to commemorate the

Paul Revere Sesqui-Centennial, to be sent to me by mail to the  
above address.

3 lb

3.7½

3 - 2

3 8

2 13

4 7½

1 1

1

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10 0

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12.7

25%  
pail weights

3.13

6.2 dry

12.4 12

14 10 14

7 5½ wet

## 120.

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16) 700. (44.  
64  
60

# WANAMAKERS

Lectures in the Wanamaker Auditorium

Thursday afternoon, Feb. 18th 1926.

The students and instructors of your Institution should find this exhibition and these lectures of special interest. Please call them to their attention. A cordial invitation is extended to visit them.

AMERICAN  
NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Office of the President  
95 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

612

23 1/2

100 lbs dry wet 124.4 lbs.  
100 lbs dry wet-frozen, 122. lbs.

73. ~~4~~<sup>6</sup> lbs dry out of the center  
of the pile while still partly frozen  
and after a number of inches of  
water had seeped into the  
cellar weights when dry 61 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>  
lbs. or a ratio of 120 to 100.

We figure we are paying for  
about 22% water.

Shunk



## THOMAS WARD COAL CO.

OFFICE AND POCKETS, 79TH STREET AND NORTH RIVER  
NEW YORK

PHONES. { 8570 { SCHUYLER  
          { 8571 {

March 2nd, 1926.

American Numismatic Society,  
155th Street & Broadway,  
New York City.

Attention of Howland Wood Esq.

Dear Mr. Wood:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of the  
23rd ult.

Had your janitor reported to us the condition of the  
coke at the time he received it, we assure you there would have been  
a thorough investigation on our part of your complaint, but we have  
no record of ever receiving any complaint from you on this particular  
shipment of coke, other than your letter just now received.

Our driver reports there was very little snow mixed  
with the coke he had on his truck which he delivered to you but not  
the amount of snow as stated in your letter.

We appreciate the action you are taking in the matter  
and we on the other hand want to make our position clear to you in  
justice to ourselves and we are also glad to comply with your suggestion  
that an adjustment on the bill be made.

We are assuming that this particular shipment of coke  
contained approximately 16% of ice etc., (we arrive at this estimate by  
taking as a basis the  $73\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of coke which you took from the pile and  
dried out, the result of which showed that there was  $61\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. of coke  
and the balance water) We do not believe that this amount of water etc.,  
can be attributed to us as our laborer informs us that he called the  
janitor's attention to the fact that there was considerable water coming  
down the sidewalk, where there is a grade from Broadway, and also off  
the roof and was running directly into the cellar. The janitor said  
nothing at the time.

Now that you have heard our side of the story we would be  
pleased to have your views in the matter, bearing in mind the while that  
we are not entering into any controversy with you, but merely stating our  
case on the facts as given us by our driver and our laborer.

WRW/AH.

Yours very truly,  
THOMAS WARD COAL COMPANY.

*Walter R. Ward*



Received 3 tons of coke July 15.

Weather clear & cold.

Chauffer and laborer had to shake truck and use shovel to get coke to tumble down after body of truck was elevated to 45° angle. Chauffer was asked why it did not run off and he said it came from the large that way in one big frozen mass.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> Rush called up in the morning. Hard was out, in the afternoon got him on the wire and spoke of the water in furnace room. He said "He did not put the water in the Coke" I said, "You would not realize how much water there was. You could come out up and look it over."

The laborer putting coke away had to put boards from doorstep to corresponding height to bin to keep out of the water. The doorstep is from 2 to 3 inches above sidewalk level and <sup>water</sup> cannot run in through doorway -

one of the words.

Drain boards -

on the first bill you showed 19.00 billed at 20.00  
we have a credit of to 50



March 4th, 1926

Thomas Ward Coal Co.  
79th Street & North River  
New York City

Attention - Mr. Walter R. Ward

Gentlemen:

Replying to your letter of March 2nd, I presume that we shall take off 16% from the last bill, or one-sixth of the bill.

As a matter of fact, our janitor did telephone your office two hours after the arrival of the coke, and had a talk with your brother. Your brother tells me to-day that he recalls the circumstance.

Also, we had a previous conversation with someone in your office with regard to the bill for six tons, which we paid last week. This man said at that time that we were entitled to deduct from the next bill \$6.50 as you quoted us \$19.00 per ton, and through an error in your book-keeping department, we were charged at the rate of \$20.00.

If both these deductions are correct, our bank shall receive your bill for prompt payment.

Very truly yours,

Curator